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URBAN DISTRICT
OF BOLSOVER
DERBYSHIRE



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health
and the
Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1962

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BOLSOVER URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

(As at 31st December, 1962)

Chairman: Councillor S. T. Fisher.

Councillor J. W. Bluff	Councillor E. Griffiths
Councillor F. Brothwell,	Councillor W. B. Revill,
Councillor S. J. Clarke,	Councillor J. W. Savage, J.P.
Councillor D. A. Coupe	Councillor J. Spray.
Councillor F. Cross,	Councillor W. A. Taylor,
Councillor T. Fulleylove	

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF :

Medical Officer of Health :

Dr. A. R. ROBERTSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
'Dale Close', 100 Chesterfield Road South, Mansfield.

(Telephone : Mansfield 811/2).

Clerk: Miss P. M. WILSON.

Deputy Medical Officer (Part time)

Dr. R. R. LANE.

Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent :

JOHN F. H. WALTON, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

(Tel. : Bolsover 3255/6)

Council Offices.

Clerk : C. F. THOMSON.

PREFACE

To the Chairman and Members of the
Bolsover Urban District Council.

Mr Chairman and Gentlemen,

Once again I have the privilege of submitting an Annual Report for your consideration. I hope you will find it to be of interest.

There has been a slight increase in the number of births this year and there has been a reduction in the infant mortality rate. The number of deaths is virtually the same as last year.

Once again I would like to thank you as a Committee for all your help and encouragement. Also my thanks to Mr Wright (Clerk of the Council) and to Mr Margerison (Engineer and Surveyor). Finally, I must thank everyone on the staff of Bolsover U.D.C. for their help and courtesy throughout the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A. R. ROBERTSON
Medical Officer of Health.

'Dale Close',
100 Chesterfield Road, South,
Mansfield.

AS STRANGE AS FICTION

O. Henry was an American author. His field was the short story with a twist or sting in the tail. Many people believe that there has never been anyone to approach him in his particular field. One of his best stories is 'The Cop and the Anthem'. This tells the story of a tramp in New York. Winter is drawing in and he decides it's time to go to prison for a short sentence. He knows he will be fed, warmed and sheltered there. To achieve this sentence he gets up to all sorts of tricks, viz:—he steals an umbrella, he orders a meal in a sumptuous restaurant, knowing full well he has no money. Alas, these and many other devices come to nought. Finally, he is arrested just when he is performing his only good action. If you wish more detail, you should read the story. Or, you should see the film 'Full House' in which the late Charles Laughton gave a wonderful performance as the tramp. The above is fiction written around the turn of the century. Of course it could not happen now, could it?

One day in the winter of 1962 I called at our depot in South Normanton. The first thing I saw was a police car. Then, I saw two policemen. It turned out that they were there with an arrested person who was being cleaned up at our depot. The arrested was a mild man of late middle age who showed all the signs of sleeping rough in the open. He was dirty, insect bitten and his legs showed mild 'frostbite'. His speech and his manner were gentle. He had been arrested for very petty larceny. The policemen told me that this was not his first arrest at this time of the year. Apparently the menu of a Xmas dinner in prison appealed to his palate. I believe they also said that he played the organ in prison. So, it can happen now can't it?

Of course, the above does not happen often. Still it set me thinking about other people who are not at one with society. Again, I must stress that we do not have

many such in my three districts. But quantity is not the only thing which affects a problem. For instance, a minute splinter in your hand can cause pain and trouble out of all proportion to its size. Similarly, even though we do not have many at odds with society, each one can cause a lot of trouble. We have two groups who give us trouble from time to time, Gipsies and the rare old person living solitarily in insanitary surroundings. I would like to say a word or two about them.

Gipsies are a national problem. They have been discussed in Parliament and at Conferences. Some of them have certainly caused nuisances in my area. When they leave a site it is often in a filthy condition. I feel it's time we decided on a national effort to integrate them for once and for all. Obviously, they would need work and housing on a scale beyond the means of Local Authorities. I believe that success has been achieved on a limited scale by providing houses and work. And this is the most encouraging sign, the children, in particular, have taken to their better surroundings as ducks to water. If the time is not ripe for the above, I have one more suggestion. Could not strategically placed camp sites be erected after discussion between the Government, the Local Authorities and the Gipsies? These sites would be sanitary and equipped with washing facilities. Surely this would be an appreciable step in the right direction. At present if a Gipsy asks 'Where can I go?' we cannot help. Our attitude is negative. Wouldn't it be better to have a positive attitude whereby we could direct him to the nearest properly equipped concerted effort to gather the Gipsies (and their children especially) back into the fold.

What about the other group I have mentioned? The great majority of old people I know are happy, valued and honoured people in our society. They would be even happier if their pensions were higher and they would be healthier too. However, that is another subject. Just occasionally, we meet with the odd old person living alone in insanitary conditions. Usually, I begin to hear

the odd whisper from neighbours. The whispers grow until they become complaints and these complaints can be justified. What can we do when this tragic situation arises? If the person is co-operative we, (i.e. the Local Health Authority) can supply a home-help and voluntary admission to an old people's home can be arranged where necessary—this is easy and pleasant, the only snag being the local and national shortage of homes for old people. The unpleasantness arises when the person is not co-operative. No-one likes using compulsion to old people. However, they cannot be regarded in isolation. Their happiness must be weighed against the unhappiness of their neighbours. If the balance is against them, something must be done; but what? At present we can take action under the Public Health Act (to have the person removed to a home or hospital). Every M.O.H. I have met dislikes the last and will use it only as a final resort. I believe we need another string to our bow. In such a case I would like provision made for the compulsory acceptance of home help by the person concerned. If this failed, the harsher provision of compulsory removal could be used. This would mean that we had tried all we could to keep them within our society. One snag, these people are by definition 'unco-operative'. They are often really dirty in body, in speech and even in mind. It's by no means a picnic to help them. I have the utmost admiration for the home-helps who do so much for them. A suggestion here, how about male home-helps? If a woman can do any job a man can do, surely the reverse holds true (witness the success of male nurses). I firmly believe that compulsory acceptance of home-help would rehabilitate many a man and woman.

I began by telling of the humorous story by O. Henry. I followed this by the equally humorous (in some ways) and true story of the prisoner at our depot. Please do not be misled by my levity. I know of few things which affect me as much as the case of a person outside who is basically equipped for our society and who only needs help in order to re-enter it.

ACCIDENTS IN THE HOME

During 1962 some of the general practitioners continued to notify home accidents to me. Below I attempt to analyse these accidents.

Number notified ... 60

Degree of Injury

Trivial	Moderate	Severe	Fatal
1	49	10	—

Accidents in Age Groups

Under 1 ... 2	4 ... 1	25-44 ... 18
1 ... 6	5- 9 ... 7	45-65 ... 3
2 ... 2	10-14 ... 3	65 plus ... 5
3 ... -	15-24 ... 6	Unknown ... 2

Cause of Accidents

Burns and Scalds	25
Falls	12
Cuts from knives, tin openers, etc.	7
Trapping fingers	4
Dropping an object on oneself or having it upon one	3
Cuts from breaking glass	2
Carrying too heavy a weight	2
Drinking from wrong bottle	1
Careless use of tool	1
Faulty electric wiring	1
Foreign body in nose	1
Violence	1

Cause of Accidents in Age Groups

Under 1	Burns and scalds	2
Age 1	Burns and scalds	5
	Trapping fingers	1
Age 2	Drinking from wrong bottle	1
	Foreign body in nose	1
Age 4	Violence	1
Age 5-9	Burns and scalds	4
	Falls	1
	Dropping object	1
	Trapping fingers	1
Age 10-14	Cut from breaking glass	1
	Falls	1
	Cuts from knives, etc.	1
Age 15-24	Burns and scalds	2
	Cut from breaking glass	1
	Trapping fingers	1
	Cuts from knives, etc.	1
	Too heavy a weight	1
Age 25-44	Burns and scalds	8
	Falls	3
	Dropping object	2
	Careless use of tool	1
	Faulty electric wiring	1
	Too heavy a weight	1
	Cuts from knives, etc.	1
	Trapping fingers	1

Age 45-65	Cuts from knives, etc.	4
	Burns and scalds	2
	Falls	2
Age 65 plus	Falls	3
	Burns and scalds	2
Not notified	Falls	2

Comments

1. As has been mentioned previously, I have no idea as to how complete these figures are. There appears to have been a decrease in the numbers notified this year as against last. However, one doctor who notified a lot of accidents, retired and left the district this year. Thus there may not have been a decrease.
2. Again, the accidents have been caused in many different ways. For the second year running most accidents have been due to burns and falls. These two causes are found in almost every age group but the severity of the injury caused by them is most marked as age increases. A trivial fall can easily break a bone in a person over 65 and even a small burn can upset an infant.
3. Only one accident resulted in trivial injury. The other 59 caused moderate to severe injury. In other words accidents are important as a cause of injury. This was also shown in the figures for 1961.
4. Again, no accidents due to domestic gas were notified, nor, was any such accident notified in 1961. From national figures, one would have expected some accidents from this cause.
5. I cannot emphasise too strongly how careful one should be when using or carrying a source of heat. For instance, babies cannot take avoiding action if any-

thing hot is dropped upon them. In a similar way, children are apt to move quickly without paying too much attention to where they are going. Several accidents have been caused in this way when a child has run into an older person carrying a pan full of hot material.

ONE STEP FORWARD, TWO STEPS BACK

Any Scot who knows any history has a tremendous affection for France and her people. France and Scotland formed the 'Auld Alliance' — a partnership against the English, especially against King Edward, the 'Hammer of the Scots'. (of course, now that Mr S. Matthews, the modern hammer of the Scots, has grown older we are managing quite nicely on our own, thank you). Accordingly, I was thrilled when my wife and I decided to spend a touring holiday in France, two years ago. We were not disappointed. We had a wonderful holiday in a fascinating country full of friendly and kindly people.

One particular day we shall never forget. We left Nice on Sunday morning and proceeded to Saintes. This is a very old town with a wonderful Roman arch dating back hundreds and hundreds of years. We then went from Ancient to Modern because our next stop was Royan. Royan is a seaside town which was destroyed during the war. However it has arisen like a phoenix from the ashes and is now just about the most modern town there is. From there we crossed the river Garonne and proceeded through the vine country to the city of Bordeaux, one of the most important towns in France. We left Bordeaux by the Biarritz road until we stopped for the day at Labouheyre. It had been a long hot day and we were pleased to sit in the hotel's garden and have a drink.

We sat there in the shadows of some olive trees and watched the cars go by. One car stopped and a French-

man and his daughter came out and enquired if they could be served with a drink. Being welcomed, they went to the car and brought the mother and another child back with them. Unfortunately, the second child was a mongol boy. When he was given a drink of orange, he blew through the straw instead of sucking. The resultant noise was clearly audible. And, the effect upon his mother was clearly evident. She looked around with a worried air, to see what we others thought of her son. She looked old beyond her years, her shoulders were tilted forwards and her back was stooped. You did not need to be a Doctor to see that her life had been spoiled by having a mentally defective son. Even the beauty we had seen all day could not mask the sorrow of this incident.

Every coin has two sides and there is another side to the above. Not long ago my wife and I went out to dinner. At the next table, one of the party was a mongol child. But, no-one here was embarrassed. The child was an accepted member of the party. This being so, I doubt if many people noticed the child's defect.

So, there you have it, the two sides of the coin. What had spoiled the life of one mother, had added to the life of the other.

Mental deficiency has been with us from the beginning of time and I am sure it will be with us until the end of time. As to whether their numbers will increase, no-one can be sure. (I am inclined to think they will). However, even if they do not increase in number per 1,000 births, I am sure that their survival rate will increase as it has done over the last decade or two. How can we help? At present there is no cure. But, we can provide hospitals and training and occupation centres for them. We must have both lines of approach. Either way should always be available to the parents. And I believe that no coercion should be applied. Nowadays one reads so often that the unfortunate child is better off at home and that such a child can be interesting and worthwhile. Very true if the mother happens to be one of the second

group I have mentioned. But, what hell if she is like the other group. Also, the attitudes of the father and of the other children must be considered. An unwanted normal child can cause a big strain in a family, let alone a defective child. I believe that the choice between home and hospital should always be there. Further, that choice should not be irrevocable. Circumstances can and do alter and regard must be had to these changes.

One step forwards, yes and we have certainly taken it. Mothers who want to keep their children are now encouraged to do so. More important, they can be helped. The training centres do a wonderful job. The children improve and the family is also helped — what a relief it must be to the mother when the child keeps school hours. Also, since the Mental Health Treatment Act of 1959, these children have been known as subnormal — a much gentler nomenclature than the previous idiot, imbecile, etc. This shows a laudable trend towards us accepting them. Two steps back, I wonder? It is not almost a refinement of cruelty to produce the above improvements but to produce them in insufficient quantity? Were I a parent waiting for such facilities I would certainly think so. For instance, we have heard a lot lately of the ten year plan for hospital building and Local Health Authority services. Yet, after these ten years, I know of one large Regional Hospital Board which will have less beds, per thousand of the population, for the subnormal than it has at present — always assuming that it manages to fulfil its plan. No, I want to see us take two steps forward. Surely, we should be determined to have sufficient places in hospitals and training centres for every subnormal child as soon as possible.

Notes

1. Please do not think I am comparing the mothers mentioned above. I do not believe it's any better to keep the child at home than to send it to hospital. Every case is different and in every case the parents should have a free choice and they should be able to change their minds if need be. The only thing wrong is not in choos-

ing one way or the other, but, in not being able to choose.

2. I am not criticising any particular Hospital Board or Local Authority. Not one of us is blameless while a shortage exists.

3. One final thought, why are so many subnormal children dressed in such an old fashioned way? Thick stockings for the females and old fashioned grey flannel trousers for the males are so often the rule. Times many I have diagnosed mental subnormality from the back, merely by noticing clothing.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area (acres)	4,526
Population (Census) 1961	11,770
Population mid-year (Registrar General) 1962	11,320
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1962)	3,718
Rateable value (end of 1962)	£115,784
Sum represented by a Penny Rate 1962	£470

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The chief occupations of the inhabitants are coal mining and agriculture. Fruit is grown in the district in large quantities. The general standard of social condition shows little change from previous years.

VITAL STATISTICS

	Total	Male	Female
Live Births	231	114	117
Rate per 1,000 population 19.55 (corrected)			
Illegitimate Live Births			
(per cent of total live births) 4.3			
Stillbirths	7	3	4
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births 29.4			
Total Live and Still Births	238	117	121
Infant Deaths (deaths under one year)	6	4	2
Infant Mortality Rates :—			
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births 25.9.			
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births 27.2.			
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births—Nil.			
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under four weeks per 1,000 total live births) 17.3.			
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under one week per 1,000 total live births) 87.0			
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total live and still births) 37.8.			
Maternal Mortality (including abortion)—Nil.			
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births—Nil.			

Comments

The number of live births and the death rate are both higher than last year.

There has been a large decrease in the number of still births and the infant mortality rate is lower. Similarly, there is a fall in the neo-natal mortality rate. Unfortunately, there is an increase in the early neo-natal mortality rate and in the peri-natal mortality rate.

Our figures compare with the National ones as follows

	Bolsover	England & Wales (provisional)
Infant Mortality Rate	25.9	21.4
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate	17.3	15.1
Peri-natal Mortality Rate	37.8	30.8

Four infants died under the age of 4 weeks. The causes of death were :—

Prematurity—1.

Congenital abnormality—2.

Bronchopneumonia—1.

Two infants died between the age of 4 weeks and one year. Both died from a congenital abnormality. These causes of death are quite usual. This year congenital abnormalities have played a very large part. Unfortunately we cannot yet do a lot about this. I can only say again how important it is to seek out and accept ante-natal care. General Practitioners and the Local Authority are only too keen to provide ante-natal care.

DEATHS

Total	Male	Female
114	62	52

Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population was 10.5 (corrected), while the National death rate was 11.9 (provisional).

The total number of deaths is virtually the same as last year, however, there has been a decrease of 8 in the number of male deaths and an increase of 11 in the number of female deaths.

Causes of Death	Male	Female
Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	1
Cancer, stomach	4	-
Cancer, lungs	6	-
Cancer, breast	-	3
Cancer, other	2	5
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	8	9
Coronary disease, angina	10	4
Hypertension with heart disease	-	1
Other heart disease	8	10
Other circulatory disease	2	3
Pneumonia	5	4
Bronchitis	5	2
Other diseases of respiratory system	4	-
Congenital malformations	2	1
Other defined and ill defined diseases	2	4
Motor vehicle accidents	2	1
All other accidents	1	3
Suicide	1	-

Comments

The pattern of deaths is similar to previous years. I am still sorry to see 7 deaths from accidents and 1 death from suicide. I am sorry to report 1 death from tuberculosis this year. I am pleased to see that there were no maternal deaths.

Cause of Death 1954-1962

	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	-	1	2	-	2	-	-	2
Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Syphilitic disease	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cancer, stomach	4	3	4	2	3	4	2	4	3
Cancer, lung	6	4	3	-	2	1	1	1	5
Cancer, breast	3	2	1	2	5	-	2	3	-
Cancer, uterus	-	-	-	-	2	2	1	3	1
Cancer, other sites	7	8	6	6	17	6	7	5	14
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	-	1	-	1	1	2	-	-
Diabetes	-	1	2	1	1	1	1	2	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	17	14	7	19	14	12	15	15	8
Coronary disease, angina	14	15	20	17	25	7	15	8	10

	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954
Hypertension with heart disease	-	1	2	-	1	2	7	3	3
Other heart disease	18	17	10	14	14	10	30	23	22
Other circulatory disease	5	6	10	6	7	11	8	5	5
Influenza	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	1
Pneumonia	9	10	5	3	7	5	3	2	4
Bronchitis	7	5	9	5	9	8	6	9	7
Other respiratory diseases	4	4	1	3	2	-	-	1	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-	1	1	1	-	3	-	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	2	-	-	2	-	1	2	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	3	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1
Congenital Malformations	3	3	-	4	2	2	-	2	2
Other defined and ill defined diseases	6	6	9	8	9	12	9	12	3
Motor Vehicle Accidents	3	2	3	1	2	4	2	3	-
All other accidents	4	6	3	4	6	2	5	4	4
Suicide	1	1	2	1	-	1	1	1	-
Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Maternity and Child Welfare and School Clinics

These are provided by the Derbyshire County Council

Chiropody Service

It is very pleasing to report that the County Council now provide such a service at their Clinic in Welbeck Road, Bolsover.

Ambulance

This service is provided by the County Council.

Laboratory Facilities

1. **Analytical** — provided by the County Council.
2. **Bacteriological** — provided by the Public Health Laboratory Service.

I thank both for their courtesy and efficiency.

Chest Clinic

The nearest Clinic is in Chesterfield, under the auspices of the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board. Another Clinic is held at the Victoria Hospital, Worksop (Watson Road Clinic) and Mansfield hold one at Kings Mill Hospital.

Venereal Disease

Treatment and advice can be obtained at Derby Royal Infirmary, Chesterfield Royal Hospital, Victoria Hospital Worksop, and Mansfield and District General Hospital.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water

This is supplied by the Chesterfield, Bolsover and Clowne Water Board and is satisfactory in quality. All the houses in the district are supplied direct from the town's mains.

Report from Chemist for Year 1962

Monthly samples for chemical and bacteriological analyses were collected from the softening plants at Bolsover Moor and Hillstown. Both plants supply a treated water with an average hardness of 150 p.p.m. CaCO_3 and all treated water samples gave satisfactory bacteriological results.

Regular samples for bacteriological and physical analyses were taken from the following distribution points:

HILLSTOWN TOWER.
HILLSTOWN STORAGE TANKS.
TAP, STRATTON ROAD, BOLSOVER.
TAP, BOLSOVER COLLIERY.

As can be seen from the enclosed analyses, plumbosolvency is not evident in either treated water.

The softener at Hillstown was re-charged with new softening media at the beginning of the year and has since functioned with greater efficiency.

Results of Examination of Sample of Water

Taken from the Hillstown Pumping Station (Blend)

Bacteriological Examination

Agar Plate counts per 1 ml.			
2 days at 37 C.	...	...	0
3 days at 20 C.	..	...	1
Coliform counts per 100 ml.			
2 days at 37 C.	..	...	0
Bact. Coli type 1 (44 C)	..	...	0

Physical and Physico-Chemical Examination

Appearance — clear.
Colour (Burgess) — 5 m.m.
Taste — normal.
Electrical Conductivity — 780 units.
Turbidity — 0.05.
Odour — nil.
pH. — 8.0.

Chemical Analysis (Expressed in mg. per litre)

Carbonate Hardness (CaCO_3)	150
Non-Carbonate Hardness (CaCO_3)	0
Total Hardness (CaCO_3)	150
Ammoniacal Nitrogen (N)	0.02
Albuminoid Nitrogen (N)	
Oxygen Absorbed (4 hrs. at 27C)	0.10
Calcium (Ca)	30.8
Magnesium (Mg)	17.7
Sodium (Na)	130.3
Potassium (K)	2.0
Total Solid (180 C)	533
Total Alkalinity (CaCO_3)	182
Excess Alkalinity (Na_2CO_3)	33.9
Chlorides (Cl)	69.6
Iron (Fe)	0.04
Manganese (Mn)	0.01
Aluminium (Al)	0.05
Sulphate (SO_4)	122.2
Oxid N. (N)	7.9
Silica (SiO_2)	7

Residual Chlorine

Free 0.02 mg/l

Combined nil mg/l

Table of Mineral Constituents expressed in Me/L

Ca	Mg	Na	K	CO ₃	SO ₄	Cl	NO ₃	Total Anion.	Probable Combination
1.54	1.46	0.64 2.55 1.96 0.51	0.05	1.54 1.46 0.64	2.55	1.96	0.51 0.05	1.54 1.46 0.64 2.55 1.96 0.51 0.05	C, CO ₃ MgCO ₃ Na ₂ CO ₃ Na ₂ SO ₄ NaCl NaNO ₃ KNO ₃
1.54	1.46	5.66	0.05	3.64	2.55	1.96	0.56	8.71	TOTAL

Table of Mineral Constituents expressed in Mg/L

Ca	Mg	Na	K	CO ₃	SO ₄	Cl	NO ₃	SiO ₂	Probable Combination
30.8	17.7	14.7 58.7 45.1 11.8	2.0	46.2 43.8 19.2	122.2	69.9	31.9 3.1	7.0	77.0 CaCO ₃ 61.5 MgCO ₃ 33.9 Na ₂ CO ₃ 180.9 Na ₂ SO ₄ 114.7 NaCl 43.7 NaNO ₃ 5.1 KNO ₃ 7.0 SiO ₂
30.8	17.7	130.3	2.0	109.2	122.2	69.6	35.0	7.0	523.8 TOTAL

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Normal treatment of sewerage continues.

The Whaley Common plant is still in a poor state owing to mining subsidence and little can be done until the National Coal Board indicate that a period of stability has arrived.

The Council have retained a firm of Consulting Engineers to report on the following matters :—

- (1) The General Sewerage System of the Town, with particular reference to areas of low capacity.
- (2) The Sewage Disposal Works at Bolsover, Shuttlewood and Stanfree.
- (3) The practical and economic problems of draining projected housing development areas on the escarpment adjacent to the Town Centre.
- (4) The provision of further drainage for the Valley Estate.

Meanwhile, taking into account the capacity and conditions of the plants available for sewage disposal, the results of samples taken by the Rivers Board Representative continue to be satisfactory.

HOUSING

There were more houses built this year. The Council built 44 houses and 17 were built privately. This gives a total of 61 for the year.

Closet Conversions

I am pleased to report a considerable number of conversions in 1962. The pail closet must be abhorred on public health and aesthetic grounds.

19 pail closets converted into water closets. All these houses being in Chesterfield Road, Shuttlewood, which have recently been served by new sewers. There were a total of 21 pail closets, one was converted in 1961 and the last one has been converted in 1963. The scheme has now been completed.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk, Meat and Other Foods

An account of the supervision of milk, meat and other foods will be found in the Public Health Inspector's report.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951

No action was taken during the year.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959

Visits are paid regularly to the factories in the district, and conditions generally were found to be satisfactory.

1. **Inspections** for the purpose of provisions as to health. (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises.	Number on Register	Number of Inspec- tions	Number of Written notices
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6, are to be enforced by Local Authorities	4	18	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	20	62	1
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. (excluding outworkers' Premises.)	3	16	1
Total	27	96	2

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars.	Found	Number of Cases in which defects were found.		Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector
		Remedied			
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	1	1	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	—	—
(c) not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Total	2	2	—	—	—

3. Outwork.

Nature of Work	No. of Outworkers	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council
Wearing apparel, making, etc	—	—
Lace, lace curtains and nets	11	—
Total	11	—

Cases of Infectious Disease Notified during the year 1962

Notifiable Disease	Number of Cases notified.													Total cases rem'd to Hospital	Total Deaths
	At Ages—years														
	At all Ages	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and up		
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Erysipelas	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	
Scarlet Fever	18	..	..	1	2	..	11	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	
Encephalitis Lethargica	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Puerperal Pyrexia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	3	..	1	
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	..	..	..	1	1	3	1	1	2	2	1	..	..	
Pneumonia	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Typhenteria	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Polio-myelitis (Paralytic)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
do. (Non-Paralytic)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Measles	60	1	6	6	8	7	29	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Whooping Cough	2	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Para-Typhoid Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Gastro Enteritis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Food Poisoning	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Meningococcal Meningitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
TOTAL	97	1	6	7	13	9	43	8	2	2	2	4	—	1	

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Measles

We had 60 cases of Measles this year. While this is nothing like the 462 of last year it is a higher number than I expected. Usually, there is a year with a high number of measles and then a year with practically no cases at all. This division is never so clear cut in Bolsover as elsewhere. The 60 cases were mild.

Whooping cough

It is pleasing to see that we had only 2 cases of this nasty illness this year.

Poliomyelitis

Again, there was no case of poliomyelitis. I can only repeat that it is my belief that all who are eligible for vaccination against this illness, should accept vaccination as soon as possible. Vaccination can now be done by mouth.

Scarlet Fever

There was an increase in this illness this year. There were 18 cases as against 9. Fortunately, they were all mild and no serious complications occurred.

Diphtheria

There has not been a case of diphtheria in Bolsover since 1948. We can keep this happy state of affairs by having our children immunised against diphtheria. In this connection I am happy to report that 211 primary immunisations against diphtheria were completed in 1962. This is 40 more than in 1961. I hope this increase in immunisation will continue and I urge all parents to have their children immunised.

Food Poisoning

Once again, no case was notified nor came to our knowledge.

Dysentery

No case has been notified since the outbreak at the end of 1960 and the beginning of 1961.

Tuberculosis

Unfortunately, this has not been such a good year. We have had five new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and one of non-pulmonary. I am looking forward to the day when no cases will be reported but, unfortunately, this has not yet come.

In addition to having more new cases of tuberculosis, we also had one death this year.

Age Periods in years	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 ...								
1 ...			1					
5 ...								
10 ...		1						
15 ...		1						
20 ...								
25 ...								
35 ...						1		
45 ...	3							
55 ...								
65 & upwards								
Totals	3	2	1			1		

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT

For the Year 1962

To the CHAIRMAN and MEMBERS of the
BOLSOVER URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my report for the year 1962.

This report has been written at a time when the subject of housing is very much in the public mind. I suppose it is inevitable that a subject which affects every family so intimately should be referred to so frequently by the political parties of the country. The severe winter through which we have just passed, has spot lighted the very serious effect that adverse weather has on the building industry. The continuing high rates of interest, rising land values and increased building costs resulted in the average cost of a three bedroom house rising by 10% in 1962, and this followed a rise of 10% in 1961. Compared with 1951, the average size of two and three bedroom Council houses built in this country during 1961 decreased by about 10%: it is possible that more careful design resulted in less waste space but there are many who now claim that by modern contemporary standards we are in effect building substandard houses.

While the subject of new housing and its cost is in the public mind, the welfare of those families living in older houses must not be overlooked. Here there appears to be more general agreement about the necessity to in-

introduce some element of compulsion to secure improvement and the installation of modern amenities in suitable older houses. Last year much better progress was made in this district but there is a long way to go before every family has a satisfactory house in which they can live a decent and healthy life. There are also those "twilight" houses which by existing legislative standards may be not quite bad enough to condemn but are still very poor homes: something will have to be done about these in the not too distant future. During 1962, further progress was made on clearing away some of the unfit houses to coincide with the development of the second part of Valley Estate. The general standard of housing in this district is being steadily and progressively raised but there is no scope for complacency and much still remains to be done.

The problem of reducing atmospheric pollution is being tackled, work is now proceeding on reducing pollution at the local colliery and the Council's first smoke control order will come into operation on the 1st July, 1963. A programme has been approved for creating further smoke control areas and I hope that progress will continue to be made on overcoming this serious public health problem.

I should like to thank the Council for their unfailing help and encouragement in carrying out my duties.

I am, Mr Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN F. H. WALTON,

Public Health Inspector & Cleansing Superintendent.

General Inspection of the Area

Table showing inspections, etc. undertaken during the year 1962.

Inspection of houses for nuisance and defects ..	392
Revisits to houses	541
Visits in connection with improvement of houses	224
Visits re water supply	8
Visits to infectious disease cases	33
Milk Distributors and Dairies	65
Slaughterhouses — Meat Inspection ..	301
Butchers Shops	72
Bakehouses	9
Fried Fish Shops	12
Other Food Preparing Premises	64
Food Shops	103
Market Stalls	63
Ice Cream Premises	98
Inns and Other Public Buildings	6
Factories and Workplaces	96
Knacker's Yard	20
Schools	5
Controlled Refuse Tips	101
Colliery Spoil Banks	4
Clean Air Act—Smoke Observations ..	7
Clean Air Act—Smoke Control Area ..	121
re Atmospheric Pollution	12
Moveable Dwellings	23
re Keeping of Animals	24
Shops Act	29
Petroleum Licensing	61
Drainage Works	145
to Public Baths	8
Miscellaneous Visits	30
Interviews with owners, contractors, etc. ..	242

Housing and Public Health Act Defects

The following table shows the defects remedied as a result of action under the Housing and Public Health Act: Defects in connection with—

House roofs	...	...	...	...	42
Chimney stacks	...	...	...	...	10
Eaves gutters and rain water pipes	...	...	...	...	29
Pointing and Brickwork of walls	...	...	...	...	16
Yard paving	...	...	...	...	8
Waste pipes	...	...	...	...	18
Internal wall and ceiling plaster	...	...	...	...	63
Windows and sash cords	...	...	...	...	18
Doors	...	...	...	...	6
Floors	...	...	...	...	5
Staircases	...	...	...	...	2
Cooking ranges and fireplaces	...	...	...	...	21
Sinks	...	...	...	...	6
Washing Coppers	...	...	...	...	2
Rising or penetrating dampness	...	...	...	...	57
Outbuildings	...	...	...	...	12
Dirty houses	...	...	...	...	1
Drains and Inspection chambers	...	...	...	...	42
Water closet pedestals	...	...	...	...	15
Closet flushing cisterns	...	...	...	...	25
Walls and fences	...	...	...	...	3
Dilapidated dustbins	...	...	...	...	162

In connection with the foregoing defects 162 informal notices and 9 statutory notices were served.

Housing

One of the most important duties of a local authority is to ensure that the inhabitants of its area are provided with good homes in which they can live decent and healthy lives. This is, of course, an extremely onerous responsibility and there is no single simple solution; it involves the erection of new houses for letting by the local authority; the encouragement of private development by ensuring that suitable sites which can be served by public sewers and other essential services are available for persons anxious to buy or build their own homes; those houses which have become unfit for habitation and are no longer capable of providing satisfactory homes have to be cleared away; existing houses have to be kept in a decent state of repair and fit for habitation; and, suitable houses which possess few, if any, modern amenities should be improved by installing bathrooms, hot water, etc. to make them more comfortable homes. Vigorous and sustained progress in all directions is necessary if the objective is to be attained, but this will be a continuing programme because housing standards must rise as the general standard of living is improved, and many of the older houses will become less acceptable as satisfactory homes and will have to be replaced.

Housing Development

Last year's report referred to the proposal to erect a further 52 dwellings—12 two bedroom houses, 16 three bedroom houses, 16 one bedroom bungalows and 8 two bedroom bungalows on the Valley Estate. Work on the site commenced early in 1962 and by the end of the year 44 dwellings had been completed, the remaining 8 houses having since been finished early in 1963. 24 of the new homes were bungalows for older people and the Council proposed to engage a warden and to instal a bell-call system though this proposal was not put into full effect until 1963.

At the beginning of 1962 there were 22 private houses in course of erection in the Urban District. 17 privately built houses were completed during 1962, and at the end of the year there were 19 private houses under construction.

In total, 61 houses were built in the district during 1962 and this represents a good increase compared with a total of 9 houses built during 1961.

The number of post war houses in the Urban District had risen to 1216 by the end of 1962, 814 having been built by the Council, 256 by the Coal Industry Housing Association and 146 by private developers. These 1216 new houses represent a quite impressive proportion of the total houses in the district—almost 33% but the very noticeable feature is the small proportion of private houses built. In many parts of the country private housing development has now overtaken local authority building, but this has not been the experience in the Belstover Urban District.

During 1962 the Council considered plans for the redevelopment of a sizeable area of land in the High Street and Castle Street central area of the town which has become available following slum clearance action. This site is capable of providing accommodation, especially for older people, in the town centre and very close to shops, but development has been deferred for the time being on financial grounds. The effects of increased land values, higher building costs and high loan charges are most noticeable in a small district of this size with such a high proportion of post war Council houses. Every scheme to provide new Council houses results in a review of Council house rents and/or a further charge against the rates, and housing finance becomes an eternal problem.

It seems to me that as a nation we must all be prepared to ask ourselves some very searching questions regarding future housing development. It has frequently

been said that the standard of houses being built at present is far too low; in recent years the size of houses and the provision of fixtures and fittings in them, have been reduced to keep down prices in an unsuccessful attempt to offset higher land values, building costs and interest rates. There are many who feel that houses which are now being built and which will still be required as homes in the early part of the 21st Century, should all be provided with garages or parking spaces, have some form of central heating and greater thermal insulation, should have ample room for the many electrical and other household gadgets and equipment which will become universally used, and should have greater space to enable the occupants to enjoy the increased leisure time which will be theirs in the future. In this country we expect our houses to last a very long time, they still provide rather uncomfortable homes long after they have become shockingly out of date by contemporary standards. There is now much talk of industrialising the building industry to speed up production, to reduce costs and to overcome the effect of adverse weather conditions, and certainly there appears to be room for improvement. When one considers the gigantic improvements effected in comparatively recent years in the design and manufacture of motor cars, of airplanes, of television receivers and a host of other things, one is very conscious of the lack of similar progress in the erection of new houses in this country. Equally startling is the fact that many of these improvements in motor cars, television and radio sets, washing machines and similar appliances have been achieved without any increase in cost, in fact many of the latest models are cheaper than they were a few years ago: what a different story there is for new houses. We must be prepared to ask ourselves whether we are willing to devote a sufficient proportion of our income, both national and personal, on providing homes for ourselves, and if we require better homes than those now being built are we prepared to pay an even greater proportion. We must be conscious of the fact that the houses being built to-day will probably be required as homes by our children and their children too, and we must ensure that as far as possible our actions are not

creating undue problems for future generations. I understand that research and experiment is taking place on producing plastic houses and we must certainly consider whether new materials and techniques can provide houses which may be replaced more cheaply and more frequently than those of traditional material and construction. We must try to assess the requirements and attitudes of the rising generation; a very great percentage of to-day's teenagers were brought up in quite new houses — theirs were the families who had sufficient points to secure a Council house in the days of acute shortage; will they be satisfied as the young newly weds of the future with houses which have not modern conveniences and labour saving devices? It is very noticeable to-day that to a very great degree the older and less attractive houses are occupied by older people. If the succeeding generation expects and is willing to pay for good homes, there will be a continuing demand for new houses, whether publicly or privately owned. The proportions in which these new houses will have to be provided will require serious consideration as it has a great bearing on the level of rents and rates in any district. We must be conscious of the fact that we spend the great majority of our time in our homes and that if we are to build a happy and contented society we must endeavour to get our priorities in a correct order. Housing affects each one of us in a most intimate way and warrants most careful and serious thought.

We are in the midst of a great social revolution in this country. Not too many years ago the majority of houses were owned by landlords; more and more houses are now owner occupied; fewer and fewer landlord owned houses remain and virtually the only houses being built for letting are local authority owned. The general standard of housing accommodation is being raised gradually and steadily and one fervently hopes that there will be a corresponding improvement in the happiness, health and well-being of the community. To be able to live a happy and contented life in a good home is one of the fundamental requirements of life, and no effort should be spared to ensure that every member of the community enjoys this benefit.

Removal of Unfit Houses

To coincide with the erection of the 52 houses and bungalows on the Valley Estate a further stage of the Council's slum clearance programme was implemented in 1962. Further action was taken in respect of houses which had been dealt with by clearance orders or demolition orders in previous years.

Bentink Road (No. 1) Clearance Area

This area comprised the sixteen houses 99, 101, 103, 105, 107, 109, 111, 113, 115, 117, 119, 121, 123, 125, 127 and 129 Bentink Road, Shuttlewood and was the subject of a clearance order confirmed without modification by the Minister of Housing and Local Government in April, 1961. At the beginning of 1962, 6 families remained to be rehoused and these were found alternative accommodation and the site cleared during 1962.

Hill Top (No. 4) Clearance Area

This area comprised three houses, 4, 6 and 8 Hill Top and negotiations to purchase the houses had been going on for a long time. All the houses were owned by foreign nationals and it became impossible to complete negotiations as some of the interested persons had returned to Italy. A compulsory purchase order in respect of two of the houses, Nos. 4 and 8, was made in November, 1962. One of the houses was still occupied at the end of the year.

Church Road (No. 1) Clearance Area

This area comprised the six houses 5, 7, 9, 11, 13 and 15 Church Road, Stanfree. A clearance order made by the Council in April, 1962, was subsequently confirmed without modification by the Minister of Housing and Local Government on the 22nd November, 1962, after holding a local inquiry. The Minister directed that payments for good maintenance should be made in respect of three of the houses. Two of the families had been found alternative accommodation by the end of 1962.

Castle Street (No. 1) Clearance Area

This area comprised the four houses 10, 12, 14 and 16 Castle Street, Bolsover. The owner indicated willingness to negotiate the sale of these houses to the Council together with three adjacent houses in the same ownership. These negotiations continued throughout 1962 and all the houses were still occupied at the end of the year. This site is in the town centre and contiguous to cleared sites already owned by the Council: the whole area is ripe for redevelopment.

Individual Unfit Houses

Action taken is set out below :—

Woodside Cottage (Gough) Shuttlewood.	Undertaking accepted and tenant rehoused in 1962.
Woodside Cottage (Hopper) Shuttlewood.	Undertaking accepted and tenant rehoused in 1962.
6 Church Road, Stanfree	Demolition order made
107 Clowne Road, Stanfree	Demolition order made and tenant rehoused in 1962.
109 Clowne Road, Stanfree	Demolition order made and tenant rehoused in 1962.
111 Clowne Road, Stanfree	Demolition order made and tenant rehoused in 1962.
113 Clowne Road, Stanfree	Demolition order made and tenant rehoused in 1962.
115 Clowne Road, Stanfree	Demolition order made
117 Clowne Road, Stanfree	Demolition order made and tenant rehoused in 1962.
28 Woodthorpe Road, Shuttlewood	Demolition order made and tenant rehoused in 1962.
30 Woodthorpe Road, Shuttlewood	Demolition order made
32 Woodthorpe Road, Shuttlewood	Demolition order made
34 Woodthorpe Road, Shuttlewood	Demolition order made and tenant rehoused in 1962.

36 Woodthorpe Road, Shuttlewood	Demolition order made and tenant rehoused in 1962.
1, Gas Works Cottages	Demolition order made
2 Gas Works Cottages	Demolition order made
3, Gas Works Cottages	Demolition order made
4, Gas Works Cottages	Demolition order made
13 Middle Street	Closing order made and tenant rehoused in 1962.
15 Middle Street	Closing order made and tenant rehoused in 1962
18 Middle Street	Closing order made

Official representations in respect of 21, 23 and 25 Middle Street and 15, 17, 19, 21, 25, 31, 33 35 & 37 Cotton Street were submitted to the Council but action in respect of these houses was not completed in 1962. These houses are in the central area of the town where plans exist for the development of a shopping centre, and negotiations were commenced with a view to these and certain other properties being purchased by the Council.

In all 20 families (66 persons) were displaced by slum clearance action during 1962, all of them accepting alternative accommodation offered by the Council. 16 houses were demolished and 4 were closed, making a total of 162 houses so far dealt with since resumption of slum clearance. At the end of the year there were 34 further houses where action had not been finally completed.

I referred in last year's report to a further survey which had been carried out to determine the number of unfit houses in the district. The initial survey several years ago contained 151 houses and all these have now been dealt with either by demolition, closure, or complete reconditioning; the second survey contained 122 houses, including a few outstanding from the first programme and action in respect of 43 of these houses was commenced in 1962.

In addition to houses which may be classified as unfit for habitation under the existing Housing Act standard, there are many houses which do not make very satisfactory homes and which do not lend themselves to being modernised and improved, frequently because of restricted size and space. The question of raising the Housing Act standard and dealing with these houses will inevitably have to be faced in the not too distant future, and this will have a great effect on the number of new houses required. It clearly demonstrates that the drive to secure better housing conditions is a continuing problem facing the country and each local authority.

In the past the implementation of the various stages of the Council's slum clearance programme has been very closely allied to new house building schemes, but the special subsidies which existed for rehousing families displaced by clearance procedure have now been replaced by a general subsidy. The Council now own over 1,150 houses and it is felt that some limited rehousing of displaced families could be absorbed by normal vacancies which occur, and that the clearance of unfit houses should not be entirely dependent on new housing schemes being undertaken.

Improvement of Houses

It is pleasing to be able to report that there was quite a good increase in the number of houses improved to provide hot water, bathroom, internal water closets, etc.

During 1962, 12 houses were improved under the discretionary grant scheme — 4 of these were owner occupied and 8 tenanted houses: 49 houses were improved under the standard grant scheme of which 27 were owner occupied and 22 tenanted houses. It is particularly pleasing that 30 out of the 61 houses improved during the year were tenanted houses and this shows a very great increase on the proportion in recent years.

The following table shows progress made on improving housing accommodation under the grant schemes :—

	Owner-Occupied Houses	Tenanted Houses	Total Houses Improved
1954	3	—	3
1955	25	40	65
1956	23	6	29
1957	15	4	19
1958	19	6	25
1959	32	—	32
1960 (Standard Grants)	15	—	
(Discretionary Grants)	3	6	24
1961 (Standard Grants)	15	1	
(Discretionary Grants)	6	1	23
1962 (Standard Grants)	4	8	
(Discretionary Grants)	27	22	61
	187	94	281

Although better progress was made last year, the improvement of suitable houses is not being carried out quite as systematically as one would wish. Basically the grants are proving more attractive to owner occupiers than to the landlords of tenanted houses, and there is a need for some degree of compulsion if ordered and continued progress is to be made. As the number of improved houses rises year by year it is now becoming more possible to see those parts of the district where the greater progress is being made, for example, most of the houses in Charlesworth Street and Scarsdale Street will soon have been improved and these include 54 tenanted houses; with one exception all the 22 houses served by new sewers in Chesterfield Road, Shuttlewood, have now been improved and of these 8 were tenanted houses. It is, of course, equally obvious to see those parts of the district where not such good progress is being made, and in recent months the owners of over 300 tenanted houses, which are thought to be suitable for

improvement, have been asked to seriously consider the question of installing standard amenities in their houses. It is too early to assess the degree of co-operation which will result but first indications are not too encouraging, and the improvement of tenanted houses is likely to be a long and not too easy task under existing legislation. It is however worthy of note that the views of the major political parties on the need for some element of compulsion are now moving much closer together, and there appears good reason to believe that the drive to secure modern amenities in suitable older houses will gather momentum in the not too distant future.

It is of course, quite right that the best possible use should be made of older houses and that these should, wherever possible, be converted into more comfortable and attractive homes. Many of these older houses are occupied by middle aged and elderly people who under the present house letting system have little prospect of being offered the tenancy of a Council house with modern amenities. As the proportion of new and improved houses in the district rises year by year, the welfare of those families who live in houses without modern facilities must of course be considered. Every effort should be made to ensure that as many houses as possible contain hot water, proper ablution facilities and indoor sanitation, enabling the occupants to live a decent and more comfortable life. The grants which are available afford the owner a satisfactory return on his outlay and give the tenant an improved house for a modest increase in rent.

It is more than likely that there will be a few cases where landlords, possibly because of advanced age, are unwilling or unable to bear the cost of improving their houses, and some local authorities are now purchasing suitable houses and subsequently improving them. I feel that this practice will grow if ordered progress is to be made and that more Councils will have to consider the question of buying suitable houses and installing modern amenities. This scheme would relate to houses with a reasonable life which are capable of being made into

more comfortable homes: it would not involve local authorities in acquiring sub-standard houses which are by reason of disrepair, bad design or lack of space, incapable of being transformed into good homes at a reasonable cost.

Housing for the Elderly

Earlier in the report I referred to the erection of one and two bedroom bungalows on the extension to Valley Estate and the total number of one bedroom Council bungalows has now risen to 59 and two bedroom bungalows to 83. There are in addition 16 two bedroom ground floor flats and 25 two bedroom temporary bungalows, though these have not been reserved specifically for older tenants. The Council thus own 183 bungalows and flats which are suitable for older persons who require smaller houses without stairs.

We are constantly being reminded of the growing proportion of older people in the community and this trend will become more marked in future. In recent years the Council have provided more bungalows for the elderly than in the immediate post war period, notably in the Oxcroft Lane area and on Valley Estate. There is still quite a considerable demand from older people for Council bungalows and there is no doubt that many people look forward to moving to smaller well equipped bungalows. There remain, however, many elderly people who have no desire to move from their present houses which many of them have occupied for a long time. There is no doubt that many of us become attached to our houses and our neighborhood and it is not necessarily a good thing for elderly people to move to new surroundings and away from friends and neighbours, especially if their health and mobility are beginning to be troublesome. Ideally, I suppose, we all require different types and sizes of houses at various stages of our lives and we should be prepared to move as our family requirements increase and then decrease in later life, but of course we are all individuals with our personal likes and

dislikes. Not by any means do all older people wish for or need to live in bungalows, many of them are quite capable and prefer to live in normal houses, but I sometimes feel that the difficulties of moving the older and more infirm people into bungalows could be reduced if tenancies were available to couples in the middle or late fifties to enable them to settle down in their new surroundings while they still enjoyed good health and strength. This could have the effect of releasing family size houses for the younger couples with children and would to a greater degree concentrate new building programmes on small bungalows which are cheaper to erect and have less impact on housing finance problems.

During 1962 the County Council Welfare Committee announced plans for the erection of an old people's home in Oxercroft Lane. This will be the first home of its type to be erected in the Urban District by the Welfare Authority and will make accommodation available for those older and more infirm people who are no longer able to look after themselves. There have been cases in the past where people were reluctant to leave the urban area to live in a County Home, and the provision of accommodation in this district is to be welcomed.

Caravans — Moveable Dwellings

During 1962 there was again a further slight reduction in the number of occupied caravans in the Urban District. In the previous year, licences were granted under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act in respect of six sites containing individual caravans: one of these sites was vacated and not re-occupied during 1962.

The Council's Housing and Planning Committee had previously decided to close down the Council's caravan site by April, 1963, in view of the improvements which would be required to secure compliance with the recommended standard. At the beginning of 1962 there were 15 standings still occupied on the Council's site and this

number has been reduced to 13 occupied standings by the end of 1962.

The number of occupied caravans was therefore reduced from 21 to 18 during 1962.

There are now more houses available for sale than was the case a number of years ago and it seems likely that the residential occupation of caravans will tend to decline. Enquiries continue to be made at the Council Offices regarding occupation of caravans on a temporary basis until the applicants can make more permanent arrangements, but when the requirements of the new Act are pointed out (these require planning consent and properly laid out and equipped sites before licences can be issued) most enquirers can see the advantage of deciding to secure a more permanent home.

Infectious Diseases and Disinfection

Particulars will be found in the report of the Medical Officer of Health of the number of cases of infectious diseases notified during the year and 33 visits were paid to houses where cases had occurred.

Terminal disinfection is no longer carried out but disinfectant is available free of charge.

Vermineous Premises

There was again virtually no evidence of bed bug infestation though several houses experienced trouble from cockroaches and control measures were carried out; suitable powder and liquid insecticides are available free of charge to affected properties.

Water Supply

Every house in the district is supplied with water from the main supply of the Chesterfield, Bolsover and Clowne Water Board. Four samples of tap water were submitted for bacteriological examination and were reported as suitable for drinking purposes.

Premises used for Preparation or Sale of Food

During 1962, 193 visits were paid to premises used for the preparation of food (excluding slaughterhouses) — these comprised one bakehouse, five fish and chip shops, two ice cream manufacturers, ten manufacturers of sausages, etc. and one cafe.

305 visits were paid to food shops and market stalls, including 44 shops registered under the Food and Drugs Act for the sale of ice cream, this being an increase of one compared with last year.

During the year action continued to be taken to secure compliance with the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations and to impress on all food traders and their staff the vital importance of strict attention to cleanliness and hygienic practices in all aspects of the preparation and handling of food. The vast majority of shops are combined shop and house premises of restricted size where the hygienic storage and display of a large variety of foods and other goods gives rise to many problems. Many of the shops in the central area of the town are in old premises which have been converted into shops. It is pleasing that the redevelopment of the town centre is due to take place fairly soon and that the resultant new premises will have been properly designed for the purpose. Modernisation of several shops in the town centre has already been completed and these offer more hygienic conditions and better facilities for the shoppers.

There was again no case of food poisoning resulting from food manufactured or processed in the urban district.

Slaughterhouses

Regulations regarding Hygiene and Prevention of Cruelty came into full effect in the Urban District on the

1st October, 1961, and by that date the three private slaughterhouses had been repaired and improved to comply with the requirements of the Regulations. The effect of the new Slaughterhouses Act and Regulations is to ensure the lairing, handling and slaughtering of animals in a humane manner, and to secure hygienic conditions for the handling of carcasses and offal and for efficient inspection of meat.

The slaughterhouse at 7 Main Street, Carr Vale was not used for much of the year due to the illness and subsequent death of the owner, but the licence was transferred to a new owner in July, 1962, and slaughtering was resumed, though only to a limited extent for the first few months.

Despite the fact that one slaughterhouse was not used for much of the year, the number of animals slaughtered showed only a very slight reduction compared with the previous year, and in recent months there has been an increase in the number of animals slaughtered. The three slaughterhouses provide facilities for 9 butchers, 6 trading in the Urban District and 3 with premises in adjacent rural districts.

Inspection of Meat and Other Foods

The following table gives particulars of meat inspection carried out during the year, and although most of the slaughtering is done during the evenings and at weekends, once again all the carcasses were inspected. An arrangement exists with the Chesterfield Corporation Public Health Department whereby their inspectors carry out meat inspection in the Bolsover Urban District during my absence.

**Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole
or in part.**

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	horses
Number killed ...	650	—	—	1387	2	—
Number inspected ...	650	—	—	1387	2	—
All diseases ex- cept Tuberculosis and Cysticerci						
Whole carcasses con- demned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	35	—	—	1	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with dis- ease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	5.38	—	—	0.08	—	—
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcasses con- demned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tub- erculosis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cysticercosis						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned...	5	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	5	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and tot- ally condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—

During the year an estimated 510 lbs. of meat and offals were rejected as unfit for human consumption and were disposed of to the local knacker's yard for sterilisation. The quantity of meat rejected at local slaughterhouses has declined steadily since the premises were reopened in 1954 following decontrol of meat : the following gives details :—

1954 (six months only)	4,232 lbs rejected
1955	3,754 „ „
1956	4,501 „ „
1957	3,293 „ „
1958	2,312 „ „
1959	1,708 „ „
1960	1,014 „ „
1961	806 „ „
1962	521 „ „

The small amount of meat rejected pays adequate tribute to the quality of animals purchased and slaughtered by local butchers and the trend established in previous years is being well maintained in the early months of 1963.

In 1962 not one single animal passing through local slaughterhouses was found to be affected by tuberculosis, and this is the first time that the disease has not been found. The most striking feature of meat inspection in the past decade has been the sharp reduction in bovine animals found to be affected by tuberculosis, and this portrays the success of the national scheme to eradicate this disease from the cattle of this country.

The following table gives the percentage of bovine animals, slaughtered in this area, found to be affected by tuberculosis :—

1954	16.40%
1955	10.39%
1956	7.82%
1957	5.71%
1958	5.51%
1959	3.06%
1960	2.11%
1961	0.15%
1962	Nil

This represents truly great success when we consider that in 1954 one in 6 of all cattle and nearly one in 3 of all cows slaughtered locally were found to be tuberculous. It is now five years since the disease warranted the rejection of an entire carcass.

The following amount of food, apart from fresh meat, was found to be unfit for human consumption and voluntarily surrendered, being disposed of by burial at the Council's tip.

Sausages	40 lbs.
Bacon	5½ lbs.
Cocked meats	29 lbs.
Canned meat	74 tins
Canned fruits (including tomatoes)	160 tins
Canned vegetables	35 tins
Canned milk and cream	21 tins
Canned soup	27 tins
Canned fish	12 tins

Sampling of Food

Sampling of food under the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act is carried out by the Derbyshire County Council and Mr R. W. Sutton, O.B.E., B.Sc., F.R.I.C., the County Analyst has kindly supplied the following report.

"57 samples, including 13 milks, were taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, in the area of the Bolsover Urban District Council during the year 1962. No serious irregularities were disclosed and no proceedings were taken.

One sample of Pasteurised Milk contained a small amount of added water and an informal sample of Ice Cream was somewhat deficient in milk solids. These were dealt with by caution notice".

Milk and Dairies Administration

The sale of non-designated milk is prohibited in this district by virtue of the Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Areas) (No. 3) Order, 1953, which came into operation on the 1st January, 1954.

One producer of Tuberculin Tested Milk bottles his milk at the farm and retails it locally, but from all other dairy farms the milk is collected by dairy companies for pasteurisation or sterilisation.

Three samples of milk were obtained from the one producer who retails his milk locally and all were satisfactory.

Five samples of pasteurised milk were submitted for examination and all were satisfactory.

The Milk and Dairies Regulations

The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations

The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations

There were in the Urban District on the 31st December, 1962 :—

Registered Distributors of milk	10
Licensed Dealers in Tuberculin Tested Milk	6
Licensed Dealers in Pasteurised Milk	6
Licensed Dealers in Sterilised Milk	4

Bacteriological Examination of Samples

There are two small manufacturers of ice cream in the Urban District and 7 samples were submitted for examination with results as follows :—

Provisional Grade 1	4
Provisional Grade 2	2
Provisional Grade 3	-
Provisional Grade 4	1

Eight samples of water from the inlet and outlet ends of the Public Baths were submitted for bacteriological examination and all were satisfactory.

Four samples from the main supply of the Chesterfield, Bolsover and Clowne Water Board were reported as being satisfactory.

Five samples of orange juice bottled locally, were submitted for examination and found to be free from coliform organisms and a further sample bottled outside the Urban District was also satisfactory.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958

At the end of 1962, 10 persons held licences to slaughter or stun animals in Slaughterhouses or Knacker's Yards.

Knacker's Yard

20 visits of inspection were paid to the Knacker's Yard. This is a rather small business in a very remote part of the district, and it was conducted in as satisfactory a manner as its nature and location permits.

These premises were enlarged during the year to afford much better facilities for storage of meat, offals and waste products and to allow for sterilisation of diseased meat.

Two buildings in Mill Lane, Bolsover, are licensed for lairage of animals.

Shops Act, 1950

29 visits were paid to shop premises regarding sanitary conveniences, washing facilities, closing hours and the employment of young persons.

Petroleum Licensing

61 inspections were made of premises used for the storage of petroleum spirit.

At the end of 1962, 19 licences were in force covering a maximum storage capacity of 280,268 gallons.

In recent years detailed inspection of all storage installations have been undertaken to secure strict compliance with the Home Office Model Codes.

Rodent Control

The Department has two trained rodent operatives and one of these men undertakes rodent control work regularly.

The Council undertake free treatment of domestic premises infested with rats or mice, but business premises are charged with the cost of treatments carried out. Four business premises were the subject of annual contracts and systematic inspections and treatments as and when required have resulted in these premises being kept well under control. Most of the other industrial and agricultural premises in the district have annual contracts with a private operator who was once an employee of the Ministry's rat and mouse destruction service.

The systematic survey of the district for rats and mice was continued throughout the year and the treatment of the sewers revealed very little evidence of infestation. Permanent baiting points were maintained at the refuse tips, sewage works and in certain lengths of public sewer and this method of treatment has been found to be highly successful.

Rodent Control Report for Year ended March 31st, 1963

	Type of Property			
	Local Authority	Dwelling houses	Business Premises	Agricultural
Total properties inspected ...	15	1321	185	47
Number of treatments carried out				
Rats ...	5	26	5	3
Mice ...	1	5	—	—

The number of treatments carried out shows little variation from the previous year. There was no major infestation, and those found were of a minor character. The general public now realise that a free service is offered for rodent control and co-operate wholeheartedly in the task of exterminating rats and mice.

Conversion of Pail Closets, etc.

The schemes to provide sewers to serve a total of 22 houses in Chesterfield Road, Shuttlewood, were completed in 1962. 21 of these houses were served by pail closets and one such closet had been replaced before the end of 1961. During 1962, 19 further pails were replaced: the one remaining house was empty for much of the year and the replacement of the pail was not completed until 1963. In 20 of the 21 houses originally served by pail closets it was possible to provide internal water closets in conjunction with provision of bathrooms and other standard amenities.

The provision of the sewers and other amenities inside the houses have been much appreciated by the various owners and tenants.

Atmospheric Pollution

The measurement of atmospheric pollution in this district was commenced on the 1st February, 1959, and the instruments were sited with the co-operation of officers of the Warren Spring Laboratory of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research. One deposit gauge was sited at Hall Farm in fairly close proximity to the Bolsover Colliery and the carbonising plant of Coalite and Chemical Products Ltd., which are the main sources of industrial pollution in the Urban District; the second gauge was sited in Moor Lane to the east of the town centre, to give records of deposited matter in the residential area. Two lead peroxide instruments were sited in Cundy Road and Moor Lane.

The results obtained since 1st February, 1959, are set out below :—

Deposited Matter

(Total solids, tons per square mile)

Hall Farm, Woodhouse Lane, Bolsover

	1959	1960	1961	1962
January	—	14.44	24.34	28.35
February	8.50	12.65	15.14	—
March	13.11	12.45	10.87	7.58
April	16.49	14.74	23.75	47.16
May	16.10	8.38	11.76	14.67
June	19.74	17.39	13.74	10.69
July	16.73	17.29	16.16	14.51
August	16.79	15.63	14.98	12.55
September	17.22	13.74	13.22	13.94
October	13.14	11.29	15.87	12.65
November	16.43	13.18	11.29	15.37
December	12.22	20.86	16.69	16.23

1959 monthly average — 15.32 tons per sq. mile.

1960 monthly average — 14.35 tons per sq. mile.

1961 monthly average — 15.65 tons per sq. mile.

1962 monthly average — 17.57 tons per sq. mile.

96 Moor Lane, Bolsover

	1959	1960	1961	1962
January	—	11.24	13.05	13.42
February	12.15	11.41	9.29	7.35
March	12.86	10.67	6.10	9.53
April	12.58	9.87	15.14	12.59
May	10.60	17.89	8.25	11.27
June	16.01	13.49	8.52	6.27
July	11.73	8.49	9.19	9.16
August	10.60	10.59	13.19	13.39
September	11.00	10.60	9.30	9.53
October	10.17	—	8.26	6.55
November	12.45	9.36	7.45	10.23
December	11.38	9.96	7.51	11.74

1959 monthly average — 11.96 tons per sq. mile.

1960 monthly average — 11.23 tons per sq. mile.

1961 monthly average — 9.60 tons per sq. mile.

1962 monthly average — 10.09 tons per sq. mile.

As was expected the amount of deposited matter has proved to be somewhat greater nearer to the industrial premises where large quantities of coal are burned or processed. The Hall Farm monthly average has increased compared with previous years, but this arose entirely from an abnormally high deposit during April, 1962, and this probably resulted from the activity of bulldozers and other equipment which were spreading and levelling the adjacent colliery spoilbank during that period.

Estimation of Sulphur by the Lead Peroxide Method.

(Mg. of SO₃ per day collected by 100 sq. cm. of Batch A PbO₂) (Louvered cover)

2 Cundy Road, Bolsover

	1959	1960	1961	1962
January	—	2.21	2.47	2.89
February	2.28	2.62	2.78	2.13
March	1.56	1.22	2.87	1.97
April	1.87	1.90	1.36	1.64
May	1.17	0.98	1.14	1.15
June	1.43	0.33	1.31	0.82
July	0.87	0.97	1.27	0.67
August	1.13	1.12	1.10	0.95
September	1.20	1.03	1.05	1.01
October	1.58	1.18	1.40	1.40
November	2.32	2.12	1.90	2.00
December	2.47	2.87	2.89	2.76
1959 monthly average				1.62
1960 monthly average				1.55
1961 monthly average				1.79
1962 monthly average				1.61

96 Moor Lane, Bolsover

	1959	1960	1961	1962
January	—	2.30	2.30	3.08
February	2.11	2.51	2.47	1.78
March	1.43	1.07	2.34	1.94
April	1.62	1.63	1.53	1.54
May	0.98	1.10	1.14	1.20
June	0.88	0.83	1.16	1.06
July	0.69	0.90	1.10	0.93
August	0.84	0.95	0.94	0.96
September	1.05	1.12	1.33	1.31
October	1.49	1.39	1.65	2.26
November	2.57	2.27	1.91	3.12
December	2.59	2.88	3.18	3.75
1959 monthly average				1.48
1960 monthly average				1.58
1961 monthly average				1.75
1962 monthly average				1.91

With regard to pollution from industrial undertakings, one of the shafts at Bolsover Colliery was electrified during the previous year and plans to provide mechanical stokers to the six boilers at the Colliery were not put into effect until after the end of 1962. The other major industrial undertaking, Messrs Coalite and Chemical Products Ltd., carries out low temperature carbonisation of coal on a very considerable scale producing a reactive solid smokeless fuel and these works are now controlled by the Alkali Inspectorate of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. The Company are actively engaged on replacing and improving the older and more smoky carbonising retorts and much progress has been made. There are, however, considerable technical problems to be overcome before this plant can be made completely smokeless and the company's research department is constantly striving to effect improvement.

Regular liaison is maintained with the District Alkali Inspector and an assurance has been received that every effort will continue to be made to reduce pollution from this source. I am particularly anxious that the general public should be able to see that progress is being made on overcoming industrial pollution, so that they may be the more willing to co-operate in reducing pollution from domestic sources.

The Council's first smoke control Order was made in March, 1962, and this related to a housing development area of some 86 acres lying to the south of New Station Road, and to the windward side of much of the central part of the Urban District. This area when fully developed could contain up to 750 houses and will have about 145 houses (of which 137 are quite new, most of them having been built by the Council) by the date the order comes into operation; together with a school, cutlery factory, water board premises and farm buildings, some of which are used for storage purposes. Objections to the Order were made at a local inquiry held on 2nd October, 1962, and the Order was subsequently confirmed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government

to come into operation on the 1st July, 1963. Arrangements were made for one of the Council's new houses in the smoke control area to be used as a "show house" for a period of twelve days in January, 1963. The house was completely furnished by the local Co-operative Society, the Coal Utilisation Council provided one of their lady demonstrators and the various types of smokeless fuels were demonstrated. Although this house was open during a period of very adverse weather, there was quite a good number of visitors, including almost all the people living in the smoke control area and many said they felt happier having seen these alternative fuels in use. The very willing co-operation received from the Pleasley Co-operative Society, the Coal Utilisation Council Regional Office, the National Coal Board, Messrs Coalite and Chemical Products Ltd., The National Carbonising Company Ltd., the East Midlands Electricity Board and the East Midlands Gas Board helped to make this a successful venture.

During 1962 the Council approved a programme to create six further smoke control areas to cover the whole of the Urban District by 1973-1974. The introduction of plans to reduce pollution from domestic sources depends on the willingness of the general public to co-operate, the supply of suitable alternative smokeless fuels, the rate at which appliances can be converted or replaced and the ability of the local authority to carry out this considerable amount of work. This is a district in which a high proportion of householders are supplied with concessionary coal and although plans to reduce pollution from domestic sources have only been introduced in one small area, it has been noticeable that whereas very few people have objected to the principle of reducing pollution, many more householders are not satisfied with the agreement reached between the National Union of Mineworkers and the National Coal Board regarding the supply of solid smokeless fuel in place of coal to persons living in smoke control areas. Under this agreement employees of the Board will receive solid smokeless fuel to the value of £47 17 0d. per year instead of their

concessionary coal allowance. Retired miners will receive smokeless fuel to the value of £23 6 0d. in place of 6 tons of coal per year and widows will receive to the value of £12 8 0d. whereas many were being provided with 5 tons of coal per year under a "pool" system. I understand that the agreements relating to allowance coal to mineworkers were originally negotiated at local level and varied very considerably in their scope: this new agreement relating to smokeless fuel for mineworkers living in smoke control areas is a national agreement, the result being that some areas are less satisfied with the terms negotiated. Although this agreement is not the direct concern of the Council, it does have an effect on the degree of co-operation and support which will be forthcoming in implementing plans for reducing pollution from domestic sources. I, personally, wish that this agreement had been more generous to retired mineworkers and to the elderly widows of mineworkers — many of these being families with a lifetime's connection with the mining industry.

The effects of atmospheric pollution are, fortunately, not nearly so apparent and explosive as the danger of consuming contaminated food or drink. We all expect our food, milk and water supplies to be pure and wholesome, it is just as important to ensure that the air we breathe is as free from pollution as we can humanly ensure.

The harmful and costly effects of atmospheric pollution have been emphasised repeatedly in recent years and the Beaver Committee which considered this question reported that "air pollution on the scale with which we are familiar in this country is a social and economic evil which should no longer be tolerated" and stated that proposals for abating air pollution "if carried out will secure happier and more healthy living conditions for millions of people and that on all counts the cost and cure will be far less than the national loss in allowing the evil to continue". In his Presidential Address to the 1961 Annual Conference of the National Society for Clean Air,

the Rt. Hon. Lord Cohen, a most eminent physician, spoke on the harmful effects of air pollution, referring to the high incidence of chronic bronchitis in this country and asked "are we not justified for health reasons alone in proceeding with the implementation of the Clean Air Act, with much greater speed? Why is there such opposition and delaying tactics to this splendidly worthwhile social enactment, when it would yield such dividends and lessen illness, death and human misery, diminish medical costs and absenteeism, increase productivity and significantly decrease our expenditure on artificial illumination, on the repair and renovation of buildings, on damage to crops and animal welfare, and improve our fuel resources"?

This is a district in which a premium grade solid smokeless fuel is manufactured in considerable quantity and it is the availability of suitable alternative fuels to coal which will govern the progress made in creating smoke control areas both in this district and throughout the country. I feel that much greater progress and a reduction of opposition to smoke control could be achieved if there were available increased quantities of reactive smokeless fuels with properties similar to those of coal except in respect to smoke emission. The need is to increase the production of such fuels until the total requirements of the domestic market could be met, and thereafter it would be possible to limit the supply of raw coal to those users who could burn it smokelessly and efficiently. Coal is a great national asset, it is high time we realised what a very complex and valuable chemical substance it is and ceased to use it so wastefully.

Public Cleansing Service

The Council operate two refuse collection vehicles—one 18 cubic yard Karrier Dual Tip purchased in 1960, and a side loading 7 cubic yard Karrier Bantam purchased in 1954. A 1,000 gallon gully/cesspool emptier was purchased in 1961, enabling cesspools to be emptied more speedily and economically than with the former equipment, this machine has also undertaken cleansing of

street gullies and the removal of sludge from the sewage disposal works without any increase in the labour engaged on public cleansing. Apart from the two men who operate the gully/cesspool emptier, there are 11 men engaged on the collection and disposal of refuse and the collection, sorting and baling of salvaged materials. In addition the working foreman carries out rodent control measures, operates a free drain rodding service, and is responsible for vehicle maintenance, together with other public cleansing duties.

The collection and disposal of refuse and the emptying of cesspools and pails are duties of vital public health importance. A weekly collection was maintained throughout the year and the almost complete absence of complaints from the public pays high tribute to the efficiency and devotion to duty of the workmen who perform this far from pleasant task. Throughout a great part of industry modern methods and machines have gone a long way towards improving working conditions, but the refuse collection service has not benefitted very greatly. It is still a dirty and not very pleasant job, especially in an area such as this where the ash content of the refuse is high, and I should like, once again to pay a very sincere tribute to the men who perform this service of such vital importance to all of us.

No undue labour difficulties were experienced during the year and the men engaged on public cleansing continued to receive a plus rate of $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour. This plus rate was introduced a number of years ago at a time of acute labour difficulties and without it, it is very doubtful whether the service would be able to recruit or retain decent workmen. An ever increasing number of local authorities have been forced to introduce collection and salvage bonus schemes to attract suitable workmen, but these involve increased clerical and administrative work and are not very easy to apply in smaller areas where workman cannot always be employed on the same work all the time.

The disposal of all refuse is now undertaken in a disused portion of the clay pit at the New Byron Brick Company's Works just outside the boundary of the Urban District. A new long term agreement was negotiated with the new owners of the brickworks and they also agreed to sludge from the Bolsover Sewage Works being disposed of with the refuse. There is ample tipping space for very many years and disposal of refuse should present no difficulties in the foreseeable future.

The Council provide a free service, except in one special case, for the emptying of pails and cesspools and the contents are disposed of into suitable manholes near the various sewage works. In recent years there has been a steady reduction in the number of pails and particularly good progress was made in 1962 until very few now remain, but there has been an increase in the number of cesspools to be emptied. Nowadays all householders desire the benefits of modern sanitation and amenities and an increasing number of isolated cottages now have larger cesspools to empty. There have also been cases of development beyond the town's public sewers and these add to the work to be done. The use of the 1,000 gallon gully/cesspool emptier has been of considerable benefit, enabling this work to be done in only a little over half the time required by the former equipment.

Salvage

(Referring to the financial year ended 31st March, 1963)

Sales from the 1st April, 1962, to the 31st March, 1963, were as follows:—

		T.	C.	Q.	£	s.	d.
Waste paper and cardboard	...	140	8	1	1164	8	1
Textiles	...	—	16	3	8	1	3
Scrap metals and tins		4	8	3	16	2	6
		145	13	2	1188	11	10

Throughout the whole of the year some restrictions were in operation on the quantity of waste paper which could be despatched to the Mills and sales declined by over 16 tons compared with the record established in the previous year and income was some £182 lower. The plans to move from the present cramped and inadequate waste paper sorting and baling premises did not progress in 1962. If new premises of adequate size, incorporating a power baling press were brought into use, the cost of handling and baling paper could be very drastically reduced, giving a greater profit to the general rate fund.

